February 10, 2017

GLOBAL AND STRATEGIC VIEW

<u>Top US general says more troops needed in Afghanistan</u> Associated Press, Feb. 9

General John Nicholson, The top U.S. commander in Afghanistan says he needs a "few thousand" more troops to properly train and advise the Afghan military.

Top inspector: New Afghan soldier tracking system protects U.S. investments

DVIDS, Feb. 8

The personnel asset inventory documents unit personnel and was established by Combined Security Transition Command – Afghanistan to ensure proper accountability.

International Red Cross suspends activities in Afghanistan

The Washington Post, Feb. 9

The international Red Cross on Thursday temporarily suspended its activities in Afghanistan following an attack that killed six of its employees the previous day in a northern province.

DRONES

IS drone attacks on liberated areas of Mosul leave 20 casualties

Iraqi News, Feb. 8

A security source in Nineveh Province declared that a person was killed, while 19 others were wounded by a drone attack carried out by the Islamic State on the liberated areas in the city of Mosul.

ISIS's Drone Papers Revealed

The Daily Beast, Feb. 9

At a former jihadist-run facility in Mosul, Iraq, researchers uncovered a cache of documents that show how the so-called Islamic State buys, builds, and deploys unmanned aircraft.

Beyond the Buzz: Assessing the Terrorist Drone Threat Stratfor, Feb. 9

The Islamic State is taking to the skies as the fight for Mosul wears on.

Afghan official: NATO drones kill 11 Islamic State fighters Associated Press, Feb. 9

An Afghan official says NATO drone strikes killed 11 Islamic State militants, including two senior commanders, in the eastern Nangarhar province.

COUNTER-IED

Avenger joins EOD fray IHS Jane's 360, Feb. 9

Med-Eng has launched a new unmanned ground vehicle (UGV) focused on explosive ordnance disposal (EOD).

CYBER

After cracking the US military, HackerOne gets \$40 million in funding

Verge, Feb. 8

HackerOne announced a Series C financing round of \$40 million. The company will use the funds "to invest further in technology development, expand market reach, and continue to strengthen the world's largest and most diverse hacker community.

WORLDWIDE IED EVENTS

WMC: Security forces detonate car bomb in eastern Mosul Iraqi News, Feb. 9

Iraqi Ministry of Defense's War Media Cell detonated a car bomb in the eastern side of the city of Mosul.

Militant mortar attacks, blast leave 13 Syrians dead, scores injured

PressTV, Feb. 9

More than a dozen people, including an aid worker, have been killed and several others injured in a series of mortar attacks and a bombing.

THREAT NETWORKS

ISIS Distributes Suicide Bomb-Making Instructional Videos on Social Media Channels

Heavy, Feb. 8

Islamic State terrorist channels have released "how to" videos for would-be suicide bombers on their encrypted chat networks and public social media sites.

ISIL in West Mosul Faces Choice: Surrender or Die, OIR Spokesman Says

DoD News, Feb. 8

Terrorists with ISIL in the western part of Iraq face two options: surrender or die, the spokesman for Combined Joint Task Force Operation Inherent Resolve told Pentagon reporters.

<u>Islamic State threatens more attacks in Afghanistan as US</u> hits militants in eastern province

Stars and Stripes, Feb. 9

The Islamic State group threatened "more devastating" attacks against Afghan courts two days after a bombing outside the country's Supreme Court killed 21 people and injured dozens more.

IS Pamphlets in Pakistan Border Areas Try to Create Panic Voice of America, Feb. 9

Militant group Islamic State has threatened to target Shi'ites living in certain northern areas of Pakistan.

This is why the Islamic State shocks the world with its graphically violent imagery

The Washington Post, Feb. 9

The Islamic State shocked the world with its use and publication of graphic violence. Its coordinated media apparatus and social-media campaigns have been widely discussed and studied, but little is actually known about its media strategy.

<u>Islamic State links to Philippine militants 'very strong':</u> minister

Reuters, Feb. 9

The Philippines is certain of "very strong" links between Islamic State and home-grown militants and is concerned about regional repercussions from tension between China and the new U.S. administration, Manila's defense minister said.